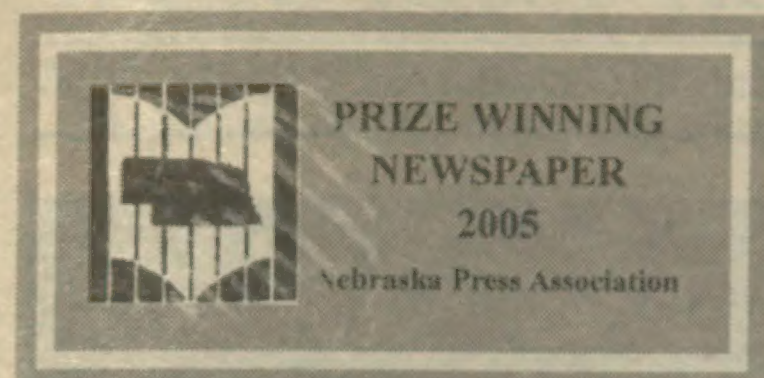


THE

GATEWAY

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA AT OMAHA'S STUDENT NEWSPAPER SINCE 1913

VOLUME 05 | ISSUE 49 | TUESDAY | April 4, 2006



Library offers foreign language television

SCOTT STEWART

SENIOR STAFF WRITER / SYSTEMS MANAGER

Have you ever wondered what the news is like in Germany or what actually is said on Al-Jazeera, the Arabic-language television network?

Now you can find out.

The UNO library has recently partnered with Satellite Communications for Learning, a non-profit organization based in McClelland, Iowa, that retransmits television news programming in more than 60 different languages.

"We are really excited," said Carolyn Gascoigne, foreign language chairperson. "We are just learning about the possibilities."

The University Library already offers student information for accessing streaming video, audio and text content off the SCOLA Web site, scola.org. Students can access archived content or choose to watch one of four live channel's Web broadcasts.

SCOLA also offers pre-made lesson plans in many languages, ranging from German to Farsi, which include video news segments, transcripts, English translations, vocabulary lists and quizzes.

Many foreign language courses

See **LIBRARY:** Page 2

Tornado hits Metro Area



photo by Michelle Bishop
Thursday's storm caused some damage across the city. A tree in nearby Elmwood park was split by lightning (above). Students had to head to storm shelters during the tornado warnings (left).

photo by Nathan Leete

NU president names top teachers, departments

ANGI SADA
NEWS EDITOR

The University of Nebraska named a UNO professor as one of this year's recipients of the Outstanding Teaching and Instructional Creativity award.

Karen Dwyer, a professor in the College of Communication, Fine Arts and Media, received the award. Ruth Heaton, a UNL professor in the Teacher's College, also received the award.

The award was designed to acknowledge an individual faculty member for continuing excellence in the classroom.

According to a statement released by NU President James B. Milliken's office, Dwyer's nomination is the result of "her teaching and mentoring skills."

Dwyer was also recognized by the American Society of Training and Development for her involvement with mentoring. She was instrumental in the development of the UNO's graduate certificate program in resources and training. She also coordinates the public speaking fundamentals program.

Milliken credits the successes of the university with the caliber of its teachers.

"Excellent faculty are the heart of any university," he said. "These recipients

See **NU PRESIDENT:** Page 2

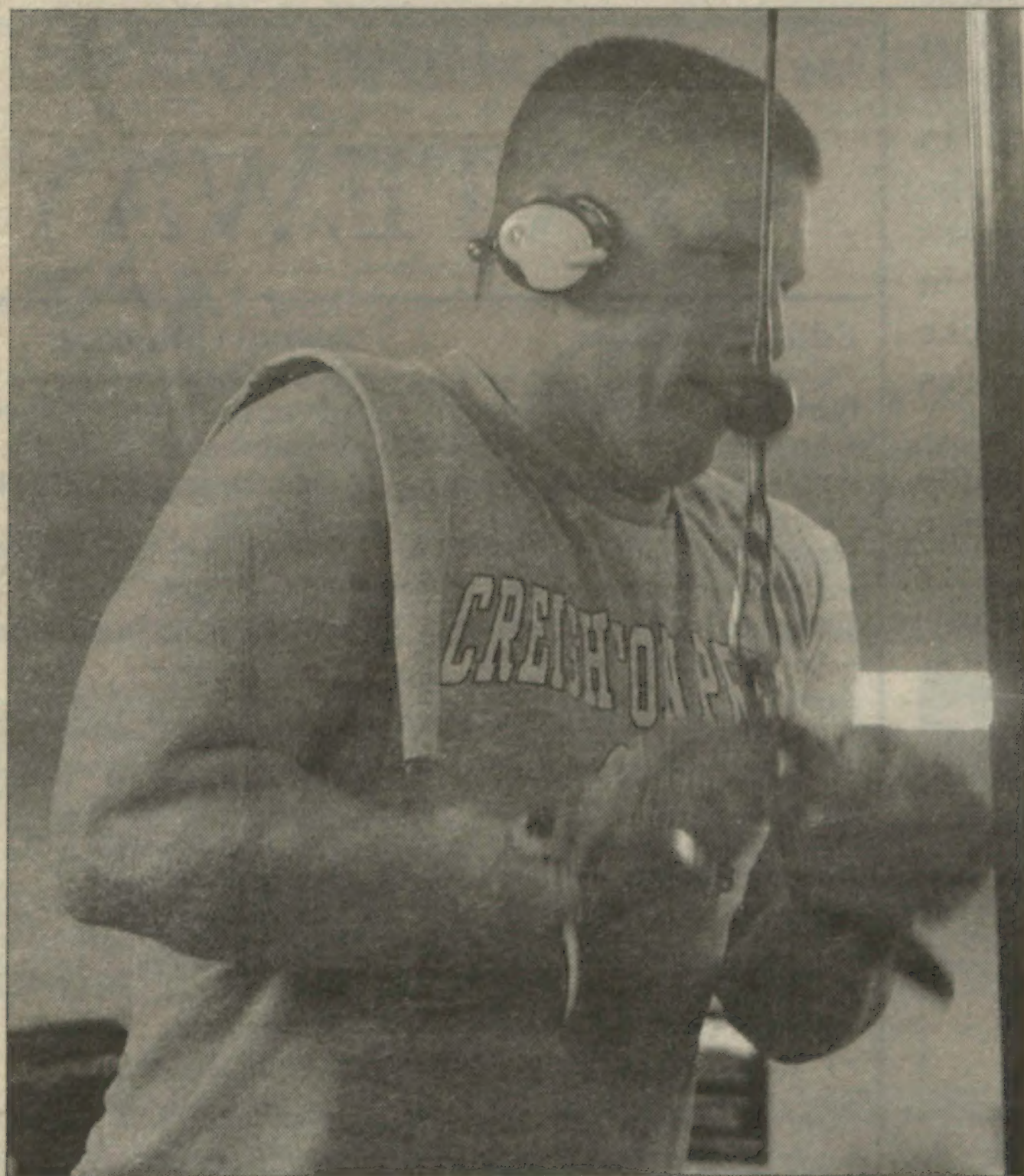


photo by Caelan Millerd

Jeff Hansen works out at the Health Physical Education and Recreation building. School officials want to know what students would like to see at HPER

Students to help decide design of HPER

SANAE BOUTAHAR
Staff Writer

A group of architectural consultants met with UNO students to figure out what changes the students would like to see in the Health, Physical Education and Recreation building.

The meeting was held to get students' feedback about the re-design of the building and to discuss possible improvements to the facility.

Many students said the HPER services are pretty good. Mounir Belayachi, a student at UNO who enjoys martial arts and swimming, said he is satisfied with the HPER space and services now, but any advances made will be good for everyone.

One of the most active

members in this process is Marcia Adler, student coordinator in health services at UNO. Adler said they interviewed companies who manage construction at college campuses across the country. Adler said these consultants help them to understand the students' interests because it is hard for them to get students' opinions for possible changes.

George Killian, architectural department manager at UNO, attended the meeting to help from a facility management and planning standpoint. Killian said meeting with students helps to provide students' needs and wants.

Killian said they are trying to gather input from everyone affected by the remodel. For Killian, it is important to hear from those who teach at HPER,

the students who workout and learn there and the providers who will help maintain the health of those who use the facility.

Timothy D. Miller, facility planner and program manager for Brailsford & Dunlavey, said: "The students, the staff and the faculty points of view are very important to begin investigating some good determination about the opportunities that we can grab."

Miller said they are not yet sure how many surveys are going to be distributed, but it may be an Internet-based survey that could go out to all students or may be just a sample of students.

"We encourage all the students to reply to that survey and let their ideas be known and considered so that we can make sure everyone's voice is heard,"

See **HPER:** Page 3

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

OmahaWeather



Today

Mostly Sunny
H: 65 L: 45

NEWS

News you
can use

page 2



FEATURES

20
Questions

page 4

ENTERTAINMENT

Ice Age sequel
makes splash

page 7

Index

News 2	Sports 9
Features 4	Crossword 9
Entertainment 7	Classifieds 12

12 Pages

News you can use

COMPILED BY KIMBERLY BRYANT
STAFF WRITER

2006 Honors Month activities begin this week

As part of Honors Month at UNO, three university-wide events are spotlighted the first week in April - the Student Honors Symposium, the Faculty Honors Convocation and the Student Honors Convocation - followed by numerous college, departmental and organizational events throughout the week and month.

At the Student Honors Symposium April 4 and 5, UNO students will present their honors theses and undergraduate research presentations.

The Faculty Honors Convocation features the recipients of the university's outstanding teaching, research and creative activity, mentoring, service-learning and distinguished professorship awards. The event will be held Thursday, April 6, at 7 a.m. in the Milo Bail Student Center Ballroom.

The Student Honors Convocation recognizes outstanding undergraduate and graduate students with the graduate scholarships, undergraduate major honorees, and deans, vice chancellor, service-learning

and outstanding student athlete awards. The event will be held Friday, April 7, at 3 p.m. in the Strauss Performing Arts Center Recital Hall.

For more information about the 2006 Faculty Honors Convocation and Student Honors Convocation, contact Deborah Smith-Howell at 554-2262 or dsmithhowell@mail.unomaha.edu.

For more information about the 2006 Student Honors Symposium, contact Rosalie Saltzman, director of the UNO Honors Program, at 554-2598.

OLLAS, LWV to host U.S. Senate Candidate Forum April 13

The Office of Latino/Latin American Studies at UNO and the League of Women Voters of Greater Omaha have partnered to host a U.S. Senate Candidate Forum Thursday, April 13. The event will begin at 6:30 p.m. at El Museo Latino, 4701 S. 25th St. It is free and open to the public.

Senate candidates David Kramer, Pete Ricketts and Don Stenberg and incumbent Sen. Ben Nelson have been invited to participate. The forum will be moderated by Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado, assistant director of OLLAS and associate professor

of political science at UNO. Spanish interpretation will be provided.

The forum is designed to allow the candidates to present their respective positions on a number of current issues, particularly those important to Nebraska's burgeoning population of Latino voters and to South Omaha residents in general.

For more information, contact Lucy Garza, OLLAS project coordinator, at 554-3835 or at lgarza@mail.unomaha.edu.

Public and Nonprofit Job Fair April 19

Career Exploration and Outreach will host a Public and Nonprofit Job Fair Wednesday, April 19, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the MBSC Ballroom. Representatives from local and national organizations will be available to discuss employment and volunteer opportunities with students and alumni.

For more information about the fair and other services offered by Career Exploration and Outreach, call 554-3672, or stop by Eppley Administration Building, Room 211.

Application deadline for Cyber Corps scholarships April 21

Applications for the National Science Foundation Cyber Corps Scholarship for Service at UNO are due Friday, April 21.

This program provides scholarship funding in exchange for service at a federal agency as an information assurance professional. While participants complete their studies, they will gain practical experience working with a federal agency as a summer intern. Once they graduate, their hands-on experience in information assurance at a federal agency will continue as they serve in a full-time position in the federal government.

Student participants receive scholarship funding for up to two years in exchange for service at a federal agency for the period equivalent to the length of the scholarship or one year, whichever is longer.

Application materials and instructions on how to apply are available at <http://nucia.unomaha.edu/coeannounce/cybercorp.php>.

Full program details are available at <http://nucia.unomaha.edu/academics/academics.php>.

From LIBRARY: Page 1

already use SCOLA programming in the classroom, according to Gascoigne. This new resource could change the way the programming is used in the future.

"We are just beginning to get involved with the library," Gascoigne said. "Several of our faculty members will serve as consultants on the project."

The partnership between the University Library and SCOLA grew out of a pre-existing relationship with students at the Telecommunication

Engineering Laboratory of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, which is housed at UNO's Peter Kiewit Institute.

These students use SCOLA as a basis for researching streaming audio and video technology and protocols, according to the group's Web site, tel.unomaha.edu.

"This is a big effort," said Hamid Sharif, the professor in charge of the laboratory.

Sharif said his group is not working directly on the library project. A representative from the library was unavailable for comment on Friday.

Students interested in accessing SCOLA content should visit the appropriate page on the University Library Web site, located at library.unomaha.edu/researchtools/scola.

From NU PRESIDENT: Page 1

of our highest awards for teaching exemplify the university's commitment to building educational programs of high quality with an emphasis on excellent teaching."

The Division of Physical Therapy Education at UNMC was recognized with the University-wide Departmental Teaching Award for its "unique and significant contribution to teaching."

The division, part of the School of Allied Health Professions, was named as a recipient for its unique three-year program that serves as a precursor to a clinical doctorate in physical therapy. The program, which focuses on placing clinicians in underserved areas like rural Nebraska, was established in 1970.

Also honored were Ruma Banerjee, George Holmes University

professor of biochemistry and director of the Center for Redox Biology at UNL and English professor Wheeler Dixon, also of UNL.

Banerjee was named for her research at the center on heart disease, cancer and metabolic disorders. Dixon was awarded for his analysis of film in society.

A committee of peers from within the NU system selects the awards winners.

All award recipients will be honored at an April 6 luncheon in Omaha.

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Editor

American journalist Jill Carroll freed after nearly 3 months

BY NANCY A. YOUSSEF AND SHATHA AL AWSY
KNIGHT RIDDER NEWSPAPERS
(KRT)

BAGHDAD, Iraq _ Jill Carroll's nearly three months of captivity ended around 12:20 p.m. Thursday when she walked into an Iraqi Islamic Party office in western Baghdad and handed the front-desk clerk a note asking for help.

The kidnapped American journalist, a freelancer for the Christian Science Monitor, had been snatched just a few miles away on Jan. 7 while leaving a Sunni politician's office. Her whereabouts had been unknown until a car dropped her off in front of the party's office, guards at the building said. She appeared healthy.

In an interview broadcast on Baghdad television, Carroll said she was treated well during her 82 days of captivity. Still wearing a hijab, which covered her hair, Carroll said she was fed well and allowed to go to the bathroom by herself. She emphasized that she was never threatened. She said she occasionally heard news, but she didn't know what led to her release, including whether a ransom had been paid.

"You would have to ask the mujahadeen (religious fighters) that," she said. "They came to me and said, 'OK, we are letting you go now.'"

On the Christian Science Monitor Web site, Editor Richard Bergenheim said no ransom had been paid. In three tapes released to Iraqi media during her captivity, a group called the Vengeance Brigade said it was holding Carroll.

In the last tape, the kidnappers threatened to kill Carroll unless all female prisoners in Iraq were released by Feb. 26. U.S. officials freed five of the nine prisoners around that time, but they said that their release was unrelated to the demand. The deadline passed with no word of Carroll, but Minister of Interior Bayan Jabr said two days later that he believed she was alive.

Officials at the Ministry of Justice said five female detainees remain in Iraq.

Carroll's arrival at the Iraqi Islamic Party on Thursday initially caused confusion. The note, written in Arabic, said that she was a hostage and asked officials there to deliver her to her country, said employees at the

Iraqi Islamic Party office.

However, the employees said Carroll looked like an Iraqi, perhaps an employee of the party's women's section. She was wearing an Islamic gown, and her hair was veiled. She also wore a khamar, a piece of cloth that covered most of her face. Only her red spectacles were visible.

The front-desk clerk went to the office manager and said a woman wanted to talk to him. "I'm too busy," the office manager, who wanted to be referred to only by the nickname Abu Hassan, replied. He got up only at the clerk's insistence.

After he read the note, Abu Hassan said, Carroll took off the khamar, revealing her face.

Workers at the office said they didn't know what to do next. No one spoke English, so Carroll tried to communicate in broken Arabic, telling the staff that she was a hostage. But Hassan said he was nervous, given the security situation, and feared that she could be untrustworthy. He called the party's general secretary, Tariq al-Hashimi, who spoke English, and asked him to talk to Carroll. Hashimi said he assured Carroll that she was safe and sent a convoy of cars and guards to pick her up and take her to party headquarters.

"She was very nervous. And she was very scared of everybody around her. She just wanted to go home," Hassan said.

On average, about 35 Iraqis are kidnapped every day. More than 400 foreigners have been snatched since April 2003. Carroll's kidnapping captured international attention as her newspaper colleagues, friends and family frequently appealed to her captors, telling them about her reverence for Iraqis and her commitment to telling their stories.

While at Hashimi's office, Carroll called her father, Jim Carroll, in an interview outside his North Carolina home, said he received the call around 6 a.m. (or 2 p.m. Baghdad time).

She said: "Hi, Dad. This is Jill. I'm released."

(Al Awsy is a Knight Ridder Newspapers special correspondent.)

(c) 2006, Knight Ridder/Tribune Information Services.

From **HPER**: Page 1

Miller said.

Adler is excited for the project to begin, saying that it will make it easier to serve students better.

"We can pull all the facility services in one place, so that we no longer have

students running in so many directions to get their wellness needs," Adler said. "It is our opportunity to give students more services and big space in a more modern fashion."

Campus group recognizes senior women, welcomes *Tuscan Sun* author

SCOTT STEWART
SENIOR STAFF WRITER / SYSTEMS MANAGER

Four Omaha-area women will be recognized by the Program for Women and Successful Aging, a campus organization founded in 1995 to assist baby boomers who were reaching middle age.

"PWSA is a membership-based, nonprofit organization that serves nearly 200 active members and researches out to hundreds of other elderly people in the community," according to its Web site, pwsa.unomaha.edu. "Its mission is to create a climate that encourages an appreciation of the elderly, their wisdom, their cultural diversity and the multiple aspects of their aging process."

The Women of Wisdom Awards will be presented at the "Celebrate: Women of Wisdom Because Aging is a Lifetime Event" on Wednesday, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Holiday Inn on 72nd Street. Frances Mayes, author of *Under the Tuscan Sun*, will deliver the keynote address for the event.

"The three women we have selected

have made a tremendous impact in our community and in the lives of the people they have touched," PWSA Director Patricia Adams said in a news release.

The award recipients are Gloria Leiferman, a retired nurse and foster mother of over 200 children; Katie Mills, a UNO alumna, former elementary school teacher and active volunteer; and Martha Parker, Supervisor of Women at her husband's Antioch Church of God in Christ.

The award was designed to highlight the daily contributions that senior women make in our community and the lives they touch, Adams said.

Evelyn Zysman will also receive the Shirley Waskel Award for the Advancement of Women at Wednesday's event in recognition of her contributions to the community, including helping to launch Omaha's first Head Start program in the 1960s.

Shirley Waskel was the UNO gerontology professor who founded PWSA and devoted much of her last few years to the organization. Waskel died in 2003, succumbing to lung cancer.

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Women's Resource Center to host "Body Image" lecture

KRISTINA ALAS
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

On April 6, the Women's Resource Center will host a discussion presentation called Body Image, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the chancellor's office.

The Women's Resource Center's goal for the presentation is to illustrate how women have changed in the past and how they are still changing today.

Tumelo Gobagoba, director for the Women's Resource Center, says she hopes the presenters will give a discussion about hairstyles.

"Hairstyles have had an affect on image, and the entire lecture itself is about image," Gobagoba says.

She says that modern hairstyles have drastically changed from the afros of the '70s.

"All Body Image is trying to say is that from hairstyles to the way we dress from the way women have held themselves over history, it all has evolved," Gobagoba says.

Gobagoba says Barbie is a big example of body image. At one point, Barbie used to be an ideal woman who had a perfect body and always wore high heels. Gobagoba says Barbie has evolved over time to reflect trends and culture shifts.

"Barbie used to dress like a princess, but now she wears bikinis and other clothes of that sort," Gobagoba says.

She noted that this alone can exemplify that body image is constantly changing.

See **RESOURCE CENTER:** Page 5

20 Questions



BECKY BOYER
STAFF WRITER

A little insight into a random UNO student

Name: Casey Ubben
Major: History
Year: Freshman
Hometown: Stanhope, Iowa

1. How would you describe yourself in one brief sentence? – Well, I like to think of myself as a kind, helping person. I like to meet new people, and hang out and have a good time.

2. If you could be a superhero, what power would you want the most and how would you use it? – I'd probably be like Spiderman and help people.

3. What person would you like to meet the most, dead or alive, and what would you ask him/her? – I'd like to meet Jesus and ask him what's the meaning of life. Then he'd give me some kind of paradox or something that I'd have to figure out.

4. Who's the best professor at UNO you've ever had? – Matthew Marx, my English professor.

5. Who's the worst or what class do they teach? – One of my history teachers—she's really, really boring. She just reads her notes...puts it all on Blackboard, and she just reads

it in class.

6. How do you feel about the parking at UNO? – Terrible, they need to make the parking structure bigger or buy some new land or something. I always have to go park at [Elmwood] park because it's the only place there is.

7. Why did you choose UNO? – I have family who goes here. Because I'm

Native American (Ponca member) and I'm from Iowa, I got in-state tuition so it's cheap.

8. What do you think your favorite thing about going to school at UNO will be? – Meeting all kinds of new people.

9. What is your favorite quote and why? – Martin Luther King, 'I have a dream,' and his letter from Birmingham jail was good too. I had to read that for my class. There's all kinds of good stuff in there.

10. If you knew you were going to die tomorrow, what

would you do today? – Live life to the fullest. Probably hop on an airplane because I've never been on an airplane, and go somewhere as fast as I could because I've never even left the country.

11. What's your favorite movie, and why?

– Donnie Darko, by far—that movie is awesome. I've probably watched it like 50 times.

12. What's the most messed-up thing about the world today? – Violence and terrorism, people blowing

themselves up for stupid reasons.

13. What would you do to change that? – Make sure [people know violence and terrorism] is dumb. I don't know.

14. If you could be any animal what would you be? – I'll be a tiger because they're cool and they're powerful.

15. What's the most horrible or embarrassing thing that's ever happened to you? – When I was at homecoming...

after the dance I tripped and fell in some mud. Everybody laughed, it was kind of funny but at the same time I was a freshman.

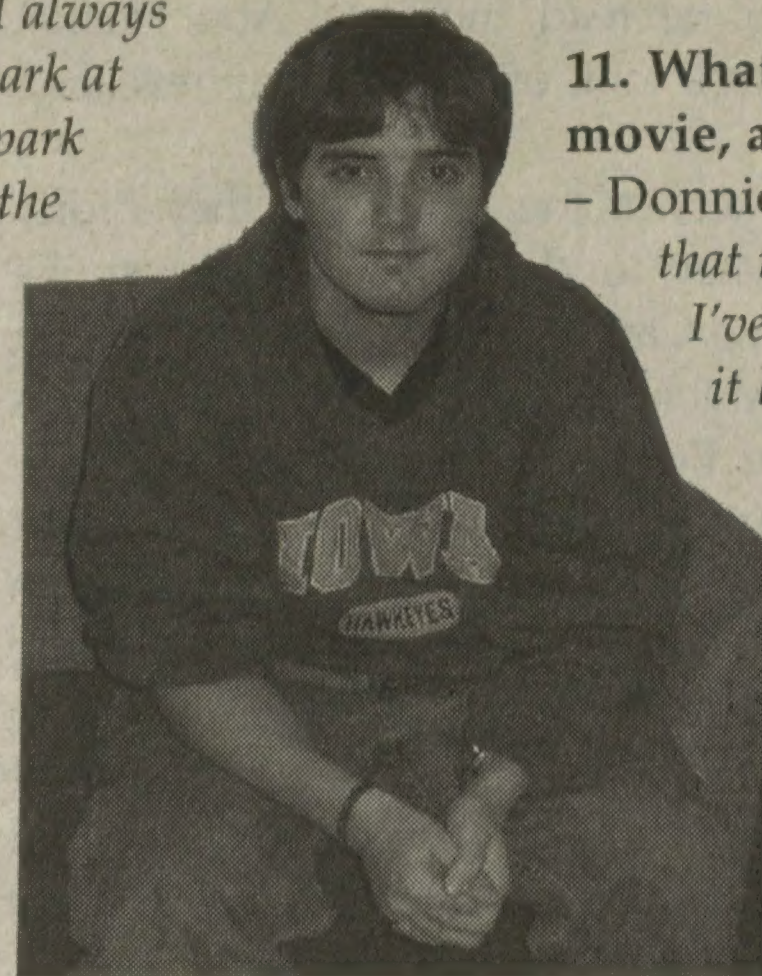
16. What song or jingle gets stuck in your head after you hear it? – Lots of those commercial jingles and old '80s cartoon shows like Inspector Gadget, stuff like that.

17. Who would win in a fight between Batman and Superman and why? – Superman would dominate Batman. He can't hurt him unless Batman's got a whole bunch of kryptonite or something.

18. What's the meaning of life? – The meaning of life is there is none, it's different for each person.

19. What is the most difficult thing you've ever done in your life? – Going to school right now. College.

20. What is one question you've never been asked, but always wish someone would have and what's the answer to that question? – Why do hot dog buns come in packs of ten but hot dogs come in packs of eight? To make you buy more hot dogs.



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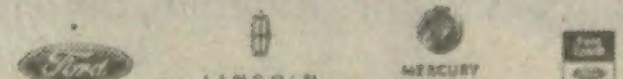
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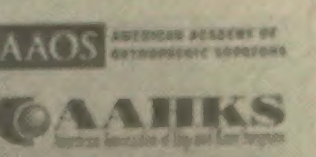
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Tech glance: DocuPen a cutting-edge handheld scanner

REVIEW BY JOSH BASHARA
FEATURES EDITOR

Imagine having a little wand-like device—a bit longer and thicker than a pen—that can copy and scan *anything*. Don't get me wrong; handheld scanners are nothing new. But *good* ones—ones that can scan graphics in *full color*, no less—that's new.

In the world of portable scanners, the DocuPen by Planon is leading the pack. This little puppy, the RC800, is a first for the consumer market. About 50 percent bigger than a pen in width and length, it features rubberized rollers on the bottom that help guide and steady your hand as you run it over a page or document.

At an absolute minimum, you can scan one 8-by-11 inch sheet of paper in about four seconds. That may not seem fast, but in the world of portable scanners, it's freakin' light speed.

However, as mentioned, that's an absolute minimum. At four seconds, I got a bit of motion blur and distortion. This can be fixed by just moving it slower. To help you out, an LED on top of the device will warn you if you're moving it too fast.

Just as you might expect, this thing up to your computer cable. It comes with a CD-ROM containing all the necessary drivers and software to pull the scans off the unit and onto the computer.

The software, PaperPort, is intuitive and allows you to not only import scans from the device, but to edit and manipulate them as you wish. You can also save scans in a variety of formats like JPG, TIFF, plain text and more.

The 2-ounce scanner features an on-board memory of 8MB. Truthfully, that's not a whole lot. Honestly, it's squat. With that kind of memory, you can take plenty of black-and-white *text* scans, but just a few full-color graphics scans. However, the scanner has a MicroSD slot so you can add a memory card, which will give you the ability to take *hundreds* of scans on-the-go.

Speaking of text scans, one nice feature of this scanner is the ability to scan something like a newspaper or magazine page, and then use the software to convert it to real text.

Confused? Here's an example: I run across a few pages of a book in the library that I'd like to use in a report that I'm writing for my English Lit class.

I whip out the DocuPen, scan the pages, plug it into the computer, and then I can turn those pages into actual, *editable* text in a Word document.

Pretty cool, huh? Well, the drawback is that the PaperPort's OCR (optical character recognition) is not the best in the industry. You have to take

a really clean scan for it to accurately convert text. Only one out of five tests I conducted yielded a perfect OCR conversion.

When it comes to scanning graphics and colors, the DocuPen works, but you're not going to get near the quality you would from a traditional flatbed scanner. The DocuPen is able to scan in 24-bit and 12-bit color, as well as monochrome and grayscale. Resolution is 100 to 400 dpi (dots per inch).

The quality itself is commendable for a scanner this small and convenient, but you can't exactly use it to digitally archive photographs. Then again, that's not what this thing is made for. It's designed to be a quick and convenient way to copy text and graphics on-the-fly. And in that regard, it excels beyond any handheld scanner I've ever seen.

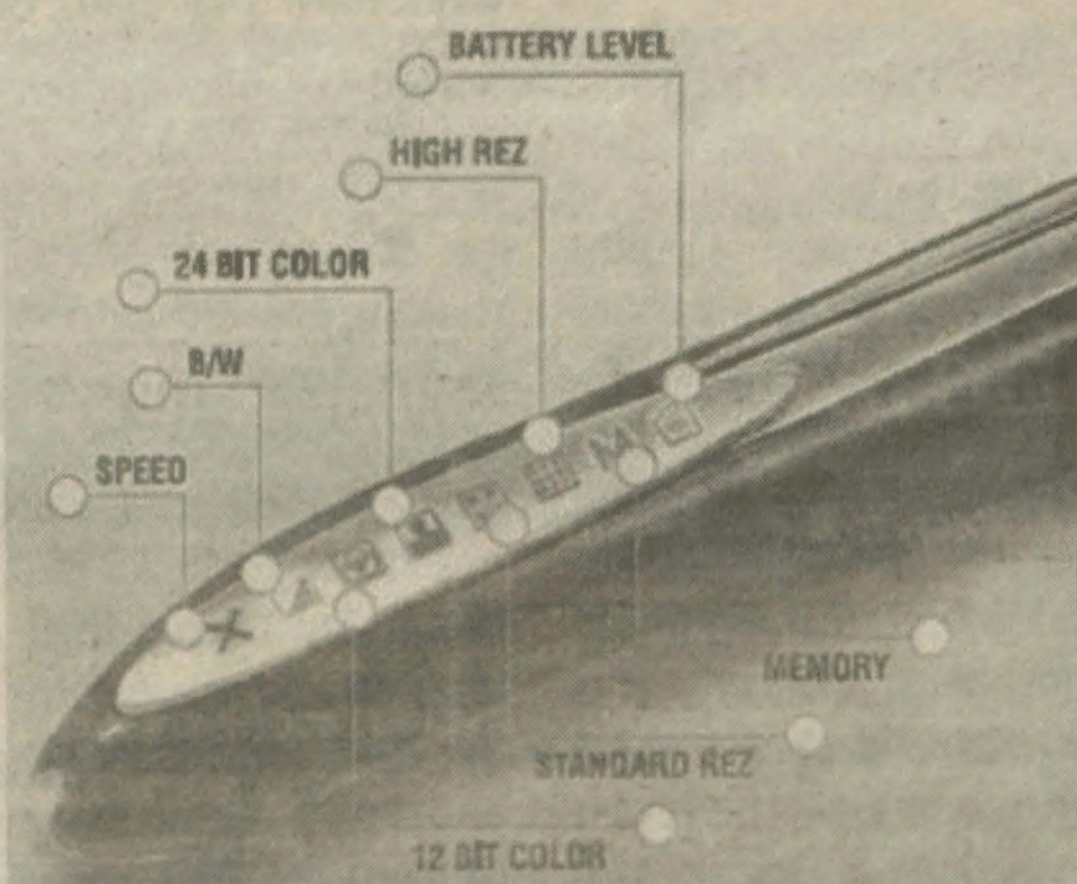
I was realistically able to scan pages of a book at about six seconds per page. That means that if I was so inclined, I could have copied all 300 pages of my Psychology book in a half hour. Of course, I would never do such a thing because it would break copyright laws. However, it's interesting to imagine a whole new form of piracy that might be introduced with a device like this—

students buying their textbooks, spending a couple hours copying those textbooks, then returning them the next day...it sends chills down the spine, doesn't it?

Overall, the DocuPen is truly cutting-edge for the consumer market. Applications are

limitless. Engineers could use it to scan blueprints on the worksite. Researchers and journalists could copy documents on-the-go, quicker than ever. Students could eliminate the need to check out library books. Magazine articles, directories, recipes, casual photos...the sky's the limit.

Well, the limit for some may be the \$299 price tag. The DocuPen is also available in a \$199 model, but it only scans in black-and-white and has less on-board memory. If you have the cash—and the need for a fast, portable scanner—the DocuPen is the best in its class. Check out planon.com for more info.



'DaVinci Code' fitness

BY DARRYL E. OWENS
THE ORLANDO SENTINEL
(KRT)

It sounds like an odd match: combining exercise and mathematics. But Joseph Mullen insists this dubious coupling produces a blessed result: maximum fitness in minimum time.

That claim is at the heart of his recent book, "The Da Vinci Fitness Code." Mullen, 68, a former fitness-center owner and a fitness author, proposes applying an esoteric mathematical sequence to a program of exercise workouts, holistic wellness and positive affirmations.

The "code" refers to the Fibonacci sequence, named for Italian mathematician Leonardo Fibonacci. In the sequence, each successive number is produced by adding the two preceding digits (1, 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 13, ...). Tailoring effective workouts, Mullen says, involves choosing the appropriate number of repetitions for an exercise based on a Fibonacci number.

Beginners might try eight reps as a minimum for each stretching or lifting exercise, and 13 reps as the point of muscle failure, the point at which you can no

longer do reps with proper form. The goal: developing a workout that harmonizes sets, reps, and rest periods to Fibonacci numbers.

Harmony is the crux of "The Da Vinci Fitness Code." For centuries, the Fibonacci sequence has been viewed as a key to opening a deeper understanding of ethereal concepts, in concert with the Golden Mean, which is both a mathematical ratio and an expression of universal unity, beauty, truth and goodness. Da Vinci employed the Golden Mean as a blueprint, most famously in his "Vitruvian Man," which illustrated harmony among parts of the human body.

"If these numbers worked for the Masters to proportion the things they created, why couldn't they work in an exercise setting?" Mullen asks.

Dickering with arcane mathematics might put off some. But the program's greatest appeal, and likely greatest source of debate, is Mullen's claim that becoming fit "takes only minutes per day, not hours."

Fitness, as he sees it, means being able "to get through the day with energy and alertness, without any pain ... and at the end of the day have energy left to do other things with your life. There's more to health and fitness than an 18-inch arm."

From RESOURCE CENTER: Page 4

"That's what we're hoping to accomplish with this event," Gobagoba says. "Letting people be aware of how women have changed in the past and how they are still changing."

The idea to host the lecture came up after the Women's Resource Center visited a similar event in Lincoln. At that event, students dressed Barbie dolls, which showed how the students perceived themselves.

"With body image comes perception of looks," Gobagoba says.

According to Gobagoba, the Women's Resource Center didn't have the resources to have Barbies at the discussion. She says they decided to just start with the discussion.

Even though the presentation is directed toward women, men are still welcome to come. Gobagoba says they can always use some more male input.

This will be the first year for the event. Last year the Women's Resource Center hosted an event called "3 Generations of Change."

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Making a Difference: Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado

KRISTINA ALAS
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

With a heart-warming personality and plenty of advice for anyone he meets, Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado, associate professor of political sciences, has made some real accomplishments in his lifetime and here at UNO.

Alvarado started working at UNO in 2000. Before that, he was a researcher at the University of Georgia. He is the assistant director for research and outreach office of Latino/Latin American studies. Alvarado has done research in Cuba for the past 15 years. On the most recent trip he took, he was part of a delegation from Washington, D.C. that went to look at how Cuba was managing their security for energy resources in the future.

Alvarado teaches classes such as American Foreign Policy, Latin American Politics, Latino Politics, Introduction to Latin American Studies and classes on democracy.

In 2003, Alvarado won the Alumni Association Excellence in Teaching award for political sciences.

"To be honored by my peers with that award meant to me that I was living up to the standard the university wants for its faculty and for its students," he said.

Alvarado is very involved in the community and is president for the board of directors with the Chicano Awareness Center. He is also president of the Highland Park Neighborhood Association in South Omaha. He tries to do as much as he can with political issues in the community.

"I think it's important for us here at the university to be able to offer people the right information so they can make good decisions about how they're interacting with the Latino community," Alvarado said.



Jonathan Benjamin-Alvarado, pictured here in a recent trip he took to Zacatecas, Mexico.

is in the world. Sept. 11 helped us to be more focused on where we are in relation to other countries in the world. I feel I can certainly give students some information and knowledge about that so they can get to that understanding. The way I look at it is I'm not only educating that person, but everybody that person knows. When someone asks that person what they did in school today, the student can sit there and share that information. I hope my students go home and have arguments with their parents about the way the world is. I think that's when I'm doing my job, and so I take that very seriously.

If you could change one thing about UNO, what would it be?

I wish the university had more resources for students. I wish there were more dorms on campus and more courses for students. I would like to see more of a campus life for students. It's great and getting better but I want more for students. I want students to have a full university experience. I think 10 years from now, the campus will be dramatically different from what it is today, especially with all the growth going on over in the south campus. But I want that now.

If there was one piece of advice you could give to UNO students, what would it be?

Keep your eyes on the prize. I believe students should set objectives for themselves to really focus on understanding what it will take to get there, and working really hard to achieve it—to have perseverance. Perseverance will get up places that no amount of money, good looks or connections will ever get you. If you work hard and keep working hard at the end of the day when every one else has quit, people will notice you. One of my personal philosophies is work hard, play hard, but family first.

Why did you decide to become a professor?

Interestingly enough, I felt it was important to give back. I come from a pretty humble background. My mother's family was migrant farm workers and I really benefited greatly from education. I felt it was important for me to give other people the kinds of opportunities that I had been given.

Education for me is the key to everything. Education doesn't just help you get a job. When you have problems and if you've taken classes in other things, it can help you understand where you are in the world. I felt it was important for me to have the opportunity to share it with other people and to be a part of that whole process. I never set out to become a role model, but I also understand that it's important for people and students like me to see people like me in front of a classroom.

One of the greatest ironies of living in Nebraska is to see this child of Chicano migrant farm workers teaching Nebraska kids about democracy. It's the most beautiful thing I do. I love that whole idea. It makes me come to work, it doesn't even feel like I'm coming to work, I feel like I'm coming to do what I love to do.

If you weren't involved in education, what else would you be doing?

Before I got into education I worked in think tanks and non-governmental organizations doing research. I did that for 10 years and I would probably still be doing that if I hadn't decided to become a professor.

What are some of the things you have seen changing in students over the years?

I've only been teaching for a short period of time but I'm really impressed by the students' desire to know where America

What are your views on the Cuban security energy strategies?

It's actually very interesting. Cuba is making a real effort to secure energy resources for the future, but has so many things to deal with that until the United States is their partner, they will never really reach their objective. My belief is it's important for us to understand what their issues are and how they can be assisted by the United States in the future. I'm looking towards the future and I'm hopeful that we can reconcile our differences with Cuba and work towards making that a reality.

Do you have any memories of a teacher who influenced you?

I had a Spanish instructor my first year of school and he inspired me to 'leave all my excuses behind.' I used to make excuses about why I couldn't be excellent, and he challenged me to forget about that and move on. It's interesting that I still think about it all the time. One of the things he taught me was that everybody goes through things in their lives and it's important for us to not let that be the focus of our lives. I think about it a lot because it inspired me to always strive to do better.

How did you feel when you received an Alumni Association Excellence in teaching award?

I felt very honored and privileged to be recognized by my peers, because I know that UNO really does value its classroom teaching. The best part about it was that my mother was in town visiting from California so I felt like a little kid getting an award at school. I think my mother was very proud, and so was I.

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Everyone could use more Friday's.

New Ice Age sequel makes a splash for kids

SANEL SELIMOVIC
STAFF WRITER

Although sequels have often been disappointing in the past, *Ice Age: The Meltdown* is a very solid movie. While it does lack the originality that came with the first movie, it builds upon the characters established in that film quite well.

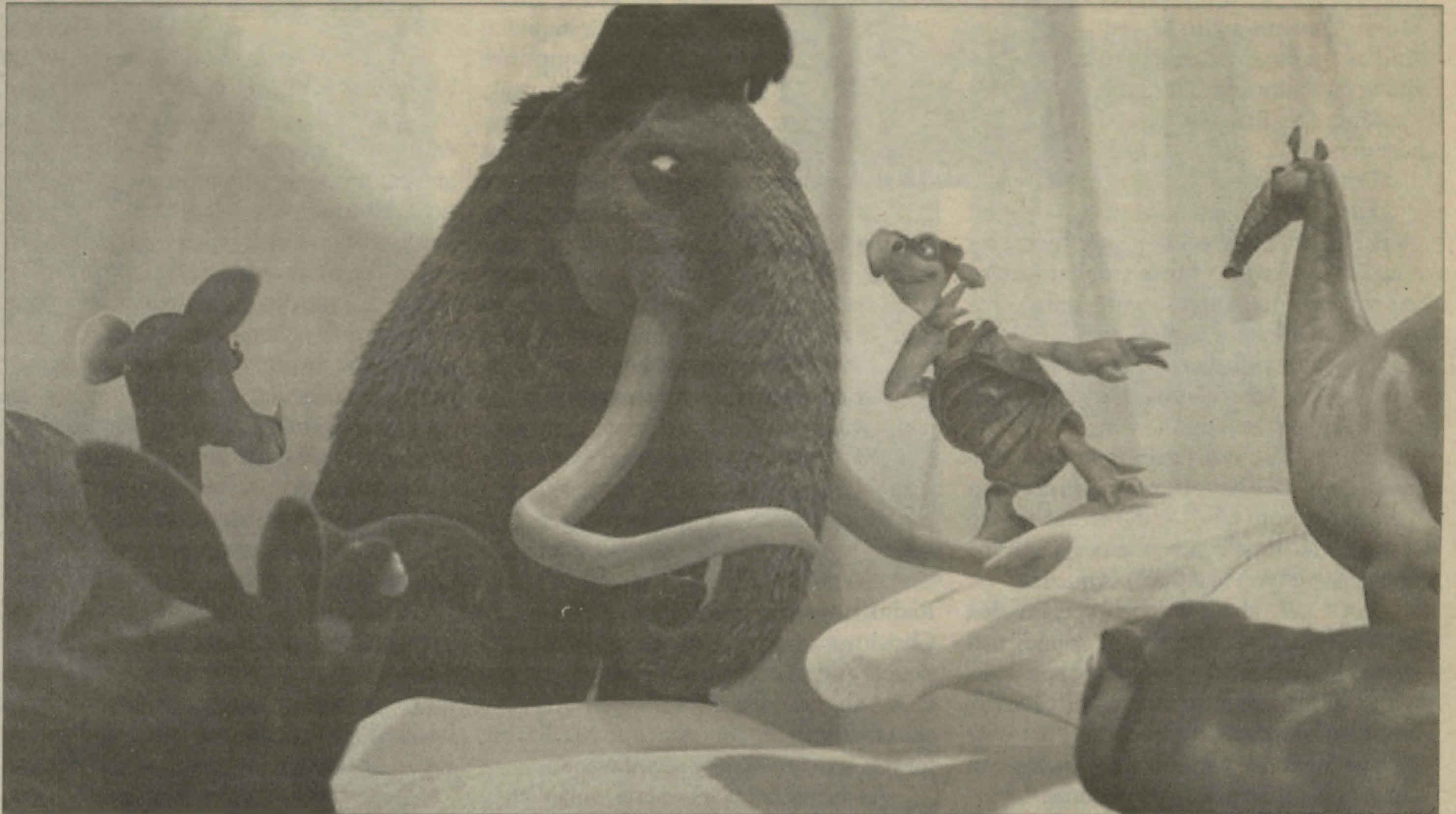
Meltdown does not refer much to the first part, so it is quite easy to follow for first-time viewers. The premise of *Meltdown* is the ice age is slowly coming to an end. Animals are living in a valley surrounded by glacier walls that are withholding water. Manny, the mammoth, voiced by Ray Romano, warns the animals in the alley to seek refuge in a boat on the other side.

The animals partake in this journey and along the way, Manny finds himself lonely. He realizes that he may be the last mammoth alive and this thought plagues his mind.

On the journey with his friend Sid, the sloth (John Leguizamo), and saber-tooth tiger Diego (Denis Leary), Manny runs into another mammoth named Ellie (Queen Latifah). From that point on, they decide to go on the journey together and mammoth chemistry begins to happen.

Viewers of the first movie will be glad that Scrat is back with his mishaps. His adventures easily carry half of the movie.

The substance of *Meltdown* is not that great, but it does offer many laughs. This is why Scrat's little adventures are a fun relief from what would otherwise be a



20th Century Fox

Manny the mammoth (voiced by Ray Romano) talking to Fast Eddy (voiced by Jay Leno) in the sequel to the 2002 animated hit *Ice Age*.

very tedious story.

The story itself is nothing original, nor is the journey. Despite this, *Meltdown* is entertaining. It tries to appeal to older audiences, but it falls short of that somewhat.

The jokes are often childish and predictable, but this is a children's movie.

Judging from the children in the theater quoting the movie lines several seconds before the characters say them, it may prove to be quite popular.

The voice acting is very well done. The digital effects are quite good; however, there were a few places where water scenes should have been handled better.

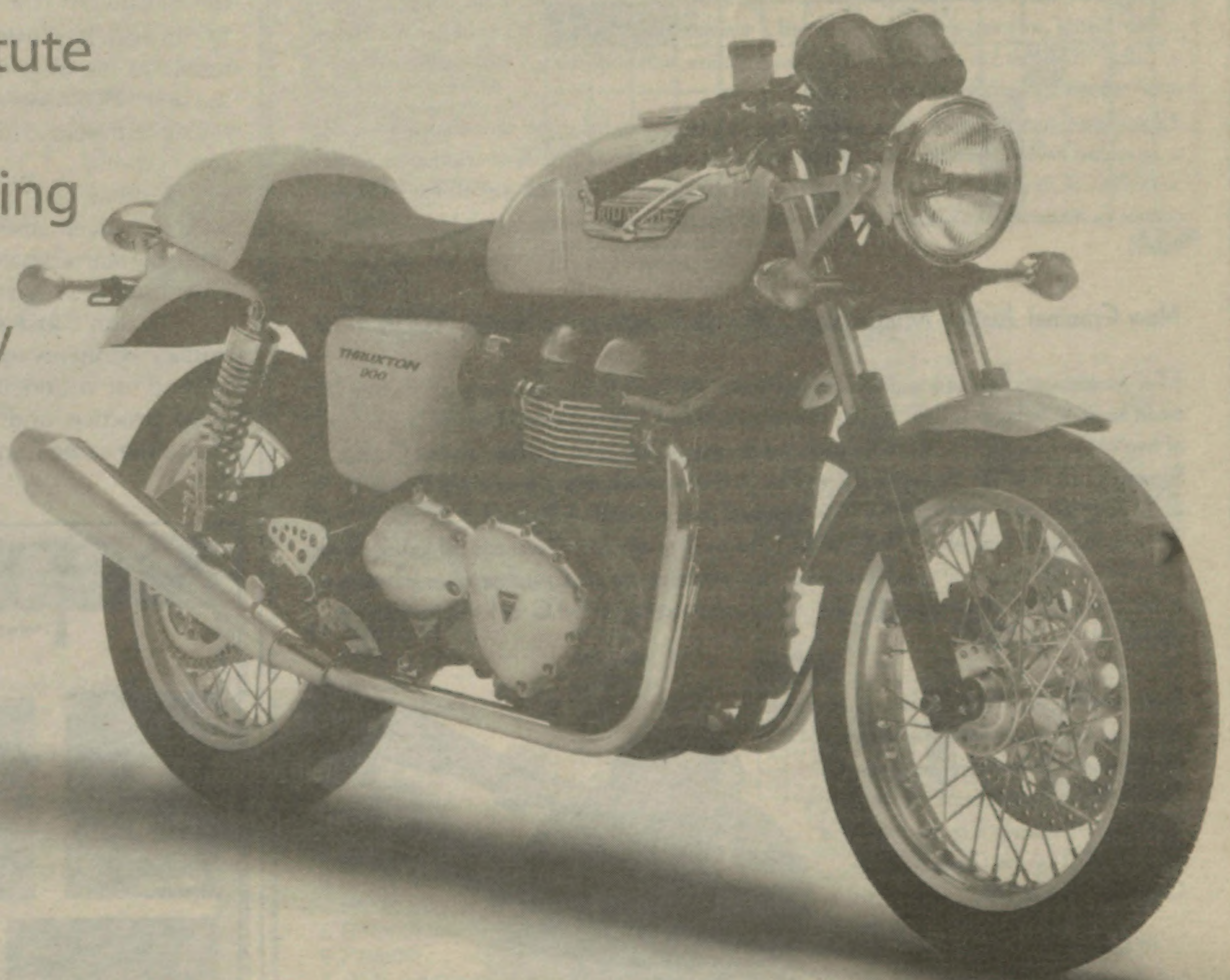
But it's nothing that detracts too much from the movie.

The bottom line is that *Meltdown* is a great experience for children and adults planning to take them.

Grade: B-

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Miami vices, voices and victories

It's the annual pilgrimage: The yearly Mecca outpost where the DJ, the musician, the record label owner, and the misplaced Cancun-ite come together, under a crystalline seacoast. It's called the Winter Music Conference in Miami. And as I write this article, I'm sitting on a sunny public beach masking the illegally placed beer in my bag.

Don't be jealous.

Having camped out in preparation for this event nearly two years now, it's overwhelming enough to make me squeeze my Corona with lime to the point that I think the glass is going to break. Let it be known that South Beach is a tidal wave for the American discotheque with a Latino tugboat leading the way.

But beyond locals getting vocal on the dance floor—we have thousands importing themselves from all over the world for the week to catch the beach, the beats and the be-dauchery (you like that?). Amazing.

Let's talk about a phenomenon that is dance music. A concept in sound, that started in the discos of New York, spread its wings to the urban landscape of Chicago, and then proceeded to transcend not only all geographical barriers, but change an entire generation's cultural patterns.

That was in the '80s, and more than 20 years later, we're still doing it.

We're talking Chicago, New York, LA, London, Australia, South America—people from all over the world. And despite different cultures, they can all identify not with McDonaldization, but with a house nation. As some say, one nation under a groove. But in this case, one world under a groove, and currently all in Miami.

And while I'm in the middle of this

On The Beat



Brent Crampton

excursion, I'll reflect a bit on what's gone down so far...

The first night, we went to franchised superclub Crobar. Counterpart of Masters at Work, Louie Vega, was headlining along with Tony Humphries and Jazzanova. At peak, 1500 people were present. House music was the jam and gettin' down was the plan. It was a bit of a culture shock for me. People that I've read about, listened to, received blast emails from and saw pictures of were all right in front of me. I brushed shoulders with King Britt, Marques Wyatt and Mr. V all in the same spot. On top of it all, I started out the night with \$90 and came home with \$4. It was \$35 at the door, \$7 for a beer and \$12 for a mix drink. Did somebody say flask?

Thursday was of a different taste. I hit up the Surfcomber for the M3 Multimedia Conference. Gilles Peterson, DJ for BBC Radio, hosted the poolside party. It felt like Christmas all over again: A couple hundred people and all of them industry, passing out CDs, t-shirts and stickers. By the way, I got a shirt that says Big Moe that's an XL. Too big for me, so let me know if you want it.

As the night hit, it became immediately apparent that it's all about who you know when approaching the bouncer at the club. On this particular night, we passed the bouncer and the \$65 cover charge to see John Digweed damage the dance floor while sitting in an airplane-seat rimmed VIP area with bottle service. Thanks to reimbursement on business credit cards, I didn't have to worry about picking up the bill. Needless to say, I had plenty of money left at the end of the night to pick up a spicy

See ON THE BEAT: Page 12

Wish you were there

Blue October – Sokol Auditorium, Saturday, April 1

REVIEW BY JOSH
BASHARA
FEATURES EDITOR

Very few "regional" bands have the power to sell out a 1,400-capacity venue in anticipation of their new album, especially before the album has even been released. But last Saturday, Blue October once again sold out Sokol Auditorium during the first leg of its tour promoting *Foiled*, the new album due out April 4.

The Houston-based quintet began capturing the hearts of many Omaha 20-somethings in 2001, after its major label debut, *Consent to Treatment*, received regular play and backing by college radio station 89.7 The River. The rest, as they say, is history.

Lead singer Justin Furstenfeld popped onstage Saturday night animated as ever, donning his new trademark suit and bug-eye sunglasses. The first few notes of "HRSA" sparked the crowd into a screaming frenzy, many fans yelling the lyrics out in sync with Furstenfeld.

A bit later, the crowd enjoyed new songs from *Foiled*, even though no one could even silently mouth the unreleased lyrics. For 99 percent of the audience, it was the first time anyone got the chance to hear material from the new disc.

With "Sound of Pulling Heaven Down," an older acapella-turned-rock-song, the band really hit it out of the park. The crowd learned it quick, shouting out



photo by Josh Bashara

Justin Furstenfeld, lead singer of Blue October, belts one into the mic at the April 1 concert in Omaha.

verses with Furstenfeld as bassist Matt Novesky sang the chorus.

As usual, the sound at Sokol was a little flat and distorted, something I still haven't been able to pin on the performers or the venue.

You had to give Blue October credit though—the guys were really giving it their all.

Between songs, Furstenfeld chatted with the crowd, telling everyone that Omaha is always his favorite place to play. Of course, every man, woman and child in the place ate it up, but as any old-school fans will tell you, the band has always truly had a soft spot in its heart for this town.

Songs alternated from old to new, a few staple hits made their way into the set list, like the warm and fuzzy love song,

See BLUE OCTOBER: Page 12

Criminal Justice Summer School Courses

The Department of Criminal Justice announces the following summer school courses:

- CJUS 3000 - Applied Statistics and Data Processing in the Public Sector
- CJUS 4800 - Special Topics: Family Violence
- CJUS 4800 - Special Topics: Death Penalty and Wrongful Convictions

• If you are interested in enrolling in CJUS 3000, and not yet admitted to the upper division criminal justice program, and have completed a minimum of MATH 1310 or higher in addition to CJUS 1010 and one 2XXX criminal justice course authorizations to enroll will be given upon request for CJUS 3000.

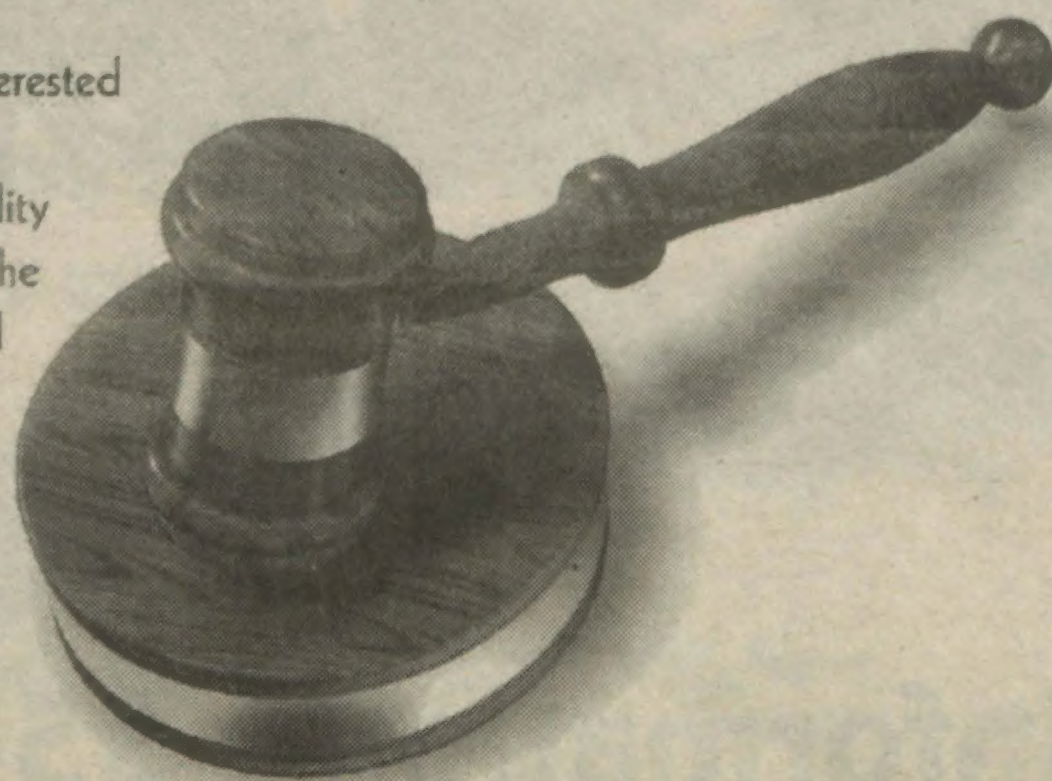
• If you are a criminal justice major and are not yet admitted to the upper division criminal justice program but have completed CJUS 1010 and a minimum of one 2XXX criminal justice course, authorizations to enroll will be given upon request for one or both CJUS 4800 Special Topics courses (a maximum of six hours of CJUS 4800 Special Topics can be counted toward the major).

New Criminal Justice Minor Now Offered Effective the Spring 2006 Term

• The requirements to earn a minor in criminal justice will consist of completing a minimum of 18 credit hours to include: CJUS 1010 - Survey of Criminal Justice (3 credit hours), a minimum of two of the three CJUS 2030 - Police and Society, CJUS 2110 - The Criminal Court System, CJUS 2210 - Survey of Corrections (6 credit hours), and a minimum of nine (9) credit hours of upper level (3000/4000) criminal justice courses excluding CJUS 3000.

• A minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA is required to enroll in any upper level criminal justice course and all nine credit hours of upper division criminal justice course work must be taken in residence at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. All courses must be graded C- or higher to count in the minor.

To declare the criminal justice minor, interested students should meet with their current academic advisor to determine applicability to their degree requirements, complete the Change of Academic Program form, and have it signed by the Department of Criminal Justice in DSC 208.



UNO student has unique sound

KRISTINA ALAS
STAFF WRITER

Producing different styles of music to his own unique lyrics is what makes UNO junior Colin Conway's music different from other singers and songwriters.

Conway is a communication major and produces his music in his spare time. He started producing when he was a freshman in high school.

"I don't just stick to one type of music," Conway said. "I like to move around in different styles because it's good practice, and, frankly, I get bored doing the same thing."

Conway's influences range from Sufjan Stevens to Gavin Degraw to the Beatles.

"The Beatles remained popular because they had a variety of styles, they basically changed their styles in every album," he said.

Conway believes it's hard to be unique these days, but says his lyrics and his flexibility make him unique.

"It's basically like everyone is just recycling and reviving other people's material," He said.

Conway started writing after he broke up with his girlfriend his freshman year of high school.

"Singing those lyrics to song helped

See COLIN CONWAY: Page 12

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photo by Michelle Bishop

Junior quarterback Zach Miller hopes to fill the shoes of graduated quarterback Brian Masek. The Mavs will host their annual spring game April 22.

Quarterbacks shine at spring scrimmage

NATHAN LEETE
SPORTS EDITOR

The 2006 Mavericks football team put on pads for the first time this season in Saturday's spring scrimmage at Al F. Caniglia Field.

Junior Zach Miller, apparent heir to Brian Masek, went 7-for-10 for 76 yards in his first game situation appearance. Greg Wunderlich, a red shirt freshman from Naperville, Ill., was 8-for-15 for 56 yards. No score was kept since the team had not worked on red zone offense yet.

"I thought the quarterbacks played

pretty well on the whole," UNO Head Coach Pat Behrns said in a news release Saturday.

UNO's offense put up 222 yards on 54 plays against UNO's defense. The rushing corps was led by red-shirt freshman Robert Wesley, who had 30 yards on eight carries. Nate Wurth, a fixture in last season's backfield, picked up 22 yards in four attempts.

The team will return to practice Tuesday at 3 p.m.

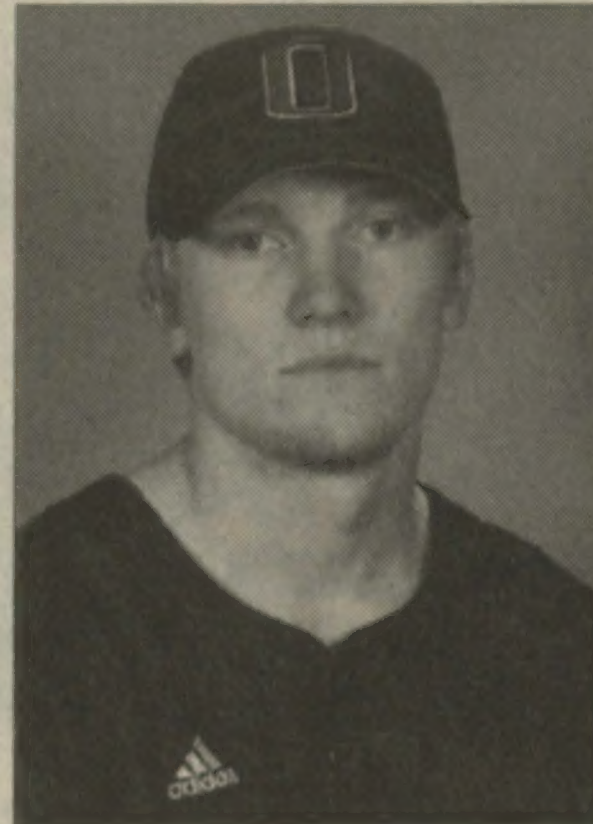
"For the first day in pads and the first scrimmage, I was pleased, although I didn't think the hitting was real crisp," Behrns said. "I would have liked to have seen more physical play on both sides."

Hardballers extend streak to eight

LIZ SELZER
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The UNO baseball team extended its win-streak to eight games by slamming Northwest Missouri State 8-7 and 7-4 last Saturday.

The Mavericks have packed in 30 games before North Central Conference play begins nextweekend, and have only dropped seven games for a 23-7 overall record.

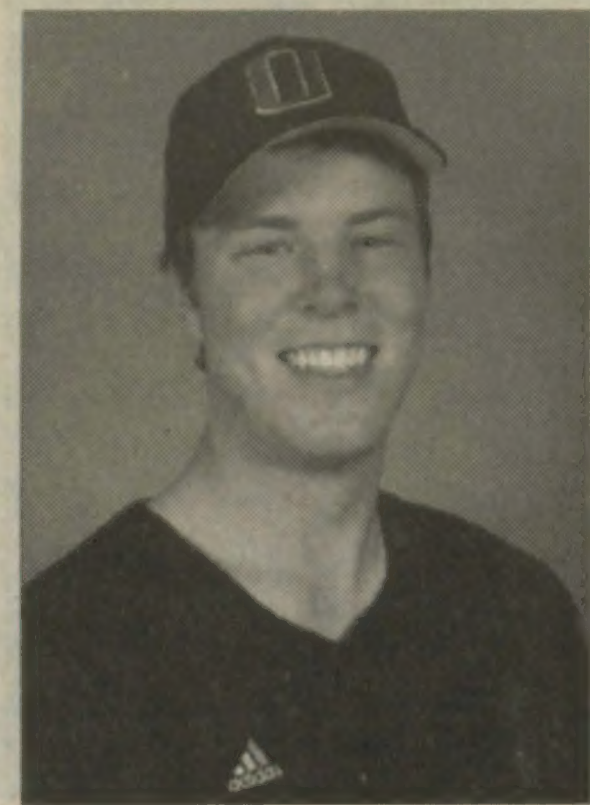


Derrick Kendrick

In the first game against the Bearcats, the underclassmen showed off their strength at the plate. Freshman Evan Porter went 3-for-4, scoring four times, and fellow freshman Derrick Kendrick had two hits for two runs. Sophomore Blake Denoyer took the mound for just the second time this year to pick up his second win.

The Bearcats went on a desperate seventh inning rally, but coach Bob Herold

called on Brian Hauck to come in for his second save of the season.



Evan Porter

In game two, the Mavs took an early 5-0 lead in the first two innings. UNO scored three runs in the first on three hits and an error. In the second inning, Bryan Frew singled to left field for an RBI and, with the bases

loaded, Bearcats' pitcher Josh Norris hit Porter with a pitchwalking in a run.

The Bearcats kept the game tense by getting in the swing of things late in the game. Pat Whitt hit a homer in the fifth and the Bearcats had the tying run up to bat, but reliever Shawn Smith came in and threw the final four outs to achieve his fourth save of the year. Josh Lundin started on the mound and kept his record perfect with his fifth win.

The Mavericks will travel to St. Cloud State for a four-game series with the Huskies, which begins NCC action Saturday, April 8, at noon.

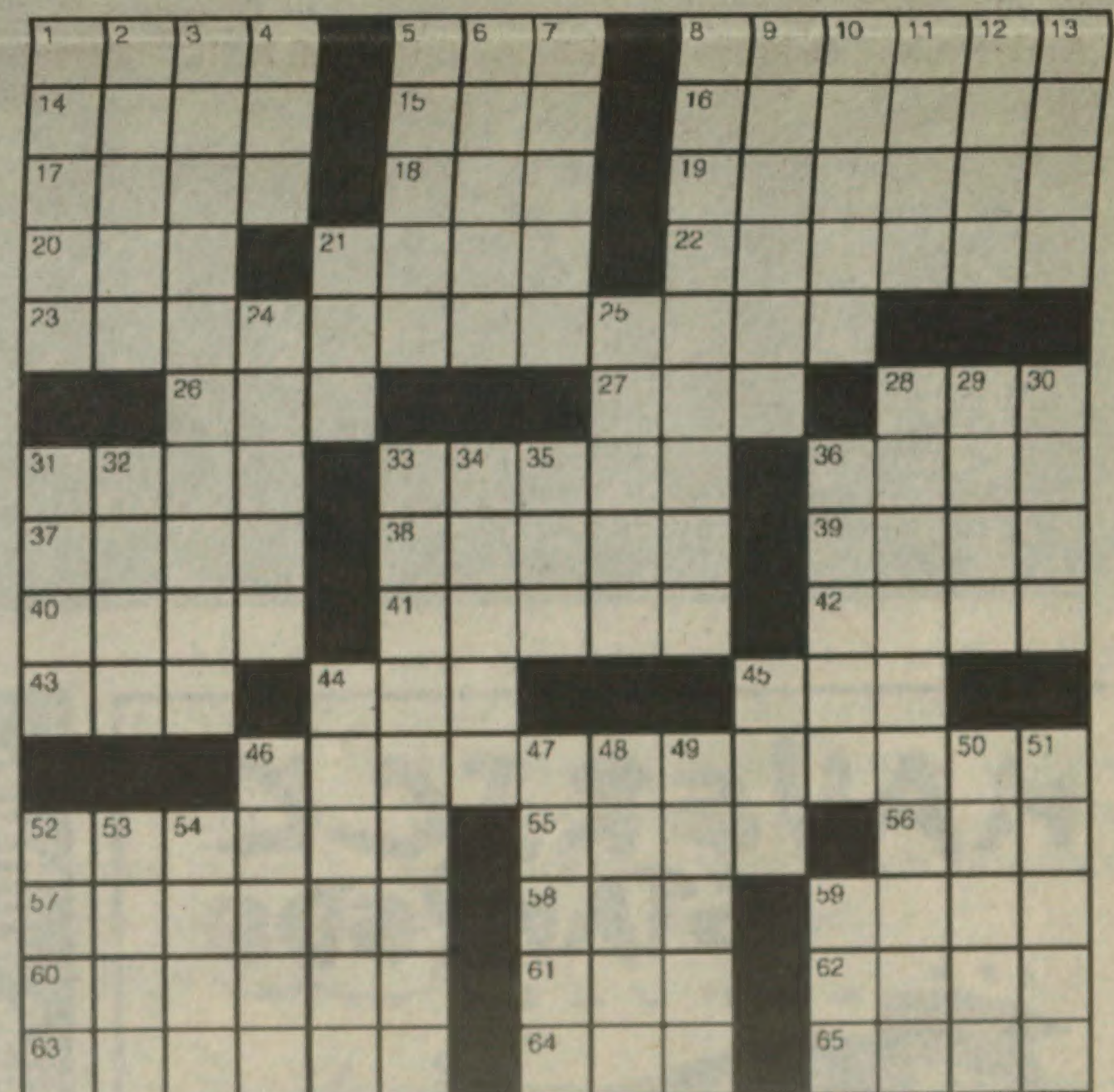
Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Art of the absurd
- 5 Help!
- 8 Moistened periodically
- 14 Utopian garden
- 15 Hole-making tool
- 16 To some extent
- 17 "___ Too Proud to Beg"
- 18 Even score
- 19 Thelma's partner
- 20 Spearheaded
- 21 Planted explosive
- 22 Sang merrily
- 23 Decisive moment
- 26 Morsel for Mr. Ed
- 27 Jazz enthusiast
- 28 Louis of boxing
- 31 Reuben shop
- 33 Film award
- 36 Actor Damon
- 37 Black Sea arm
- 38 Bawl out
- 39 "Do ___ others..."
- 40 Strongly advise
- 41 Closing measures
- 42 Light gas
- 43 Wide inlet
- 44 Young seal
- 45 Pers. pension
- 46 Star spotters
- 52 Kind of cat
- 55 One woodwind
- 56 Full-house sign
- 57 Deep red gem
- 58 Bigwig letters
- 59 Knock senseless
- 60 Political exile
- 61 European high point
- 62 Acute
- 63 Go by again
- 64 Cunning
- 65 500-mi. event

DOWN

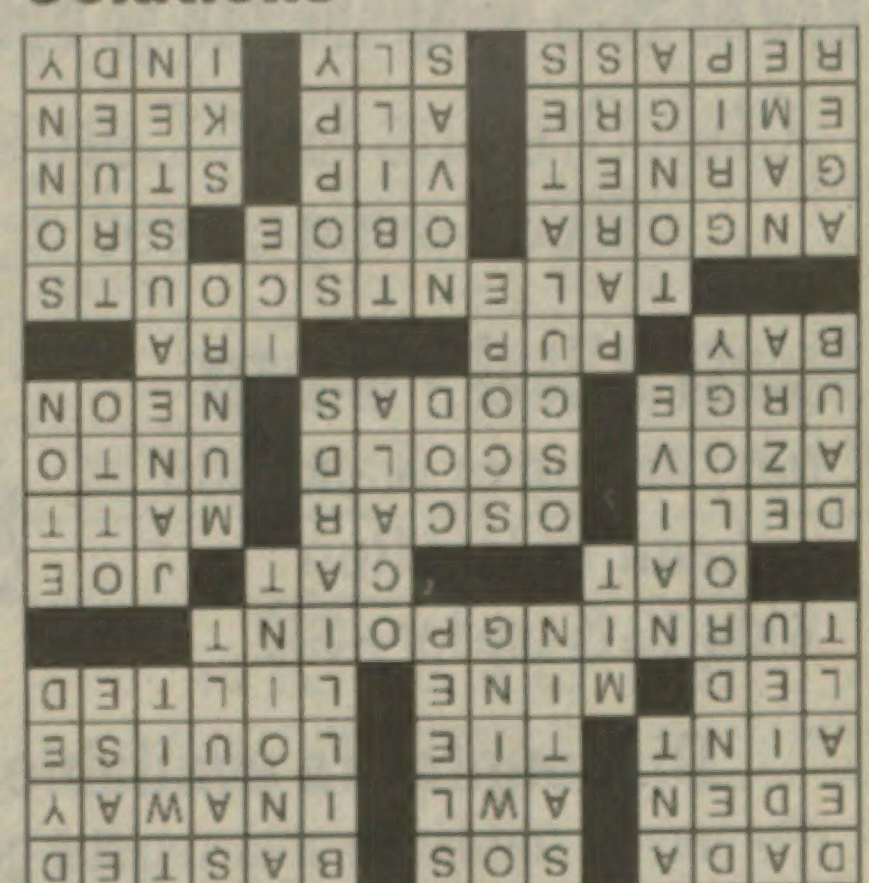
- 1 Handed out
- 2 So long to Yves
- 3 Study of trees
- 4 Picnic spoiler
- 5 Smooth fabric
- 6 Payable
- 7 REM situation
- 8 Pool-like game



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4/6/06

Solutions



- 47 Stellar blasts
- 48 Short-term govt. investment
- 49 Too sentimental
- 50 Positioned accurately
- 51 Cher's ex
- 52 Teen follower?
- 53 Tom, Dick or Harry
- 54 Take hold of
- 59 Enjoy

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Softball's 21 game win streak stops Saturday at UNO tournament

NATHAN LEETE
SPORTS EDITOR

The No. 14 ranked UNO softball team extended its win-streak to 21 games with a first round win over Wayne State Saturday morning at the UNO Softball Tournament.

But like all good things, it came to an end with two late inning losses in the second and third rounds.

Sara Sortino and Katie Novotny led the Mavericks in their 6-2 victory over Wayne State in game one. Sortino had two hits for two RBIs, including a two-RBI double in the sixth that started a three-run inning for UNO. Novotny went 3-for-3 at the plate. Cayte Billman allowed just five hits in the win.

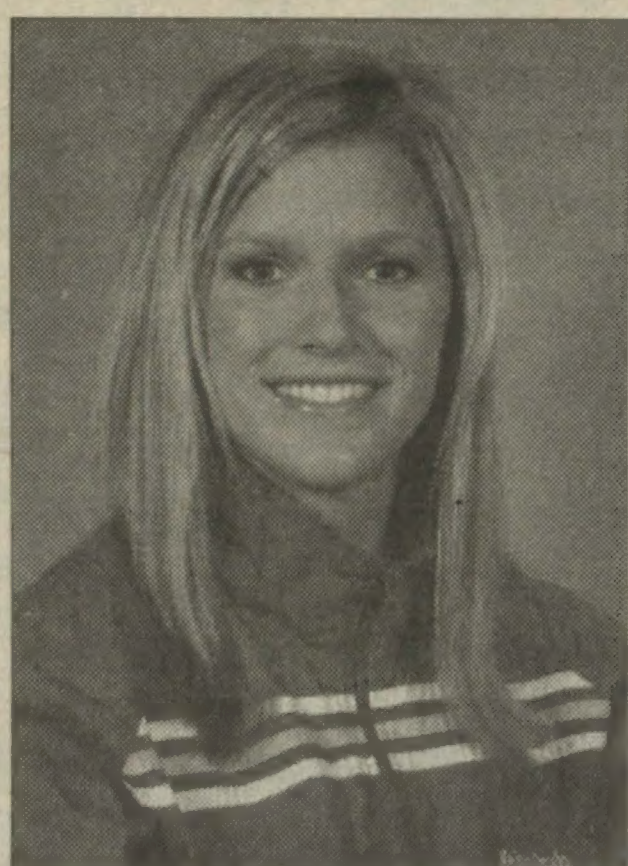
In game two, UNO took a 2-0 lead against Washburn, but allowed the Lady Blues to knot things up in the bottom of the second. Kala Huske and Brooke

DeVader gave WU the lead with a triple and single respectively in the fifth. Autumn Hauck added an RBI double in the sixth to give the Lady Blues a 4-2 win, ending the Mavs' win streak.

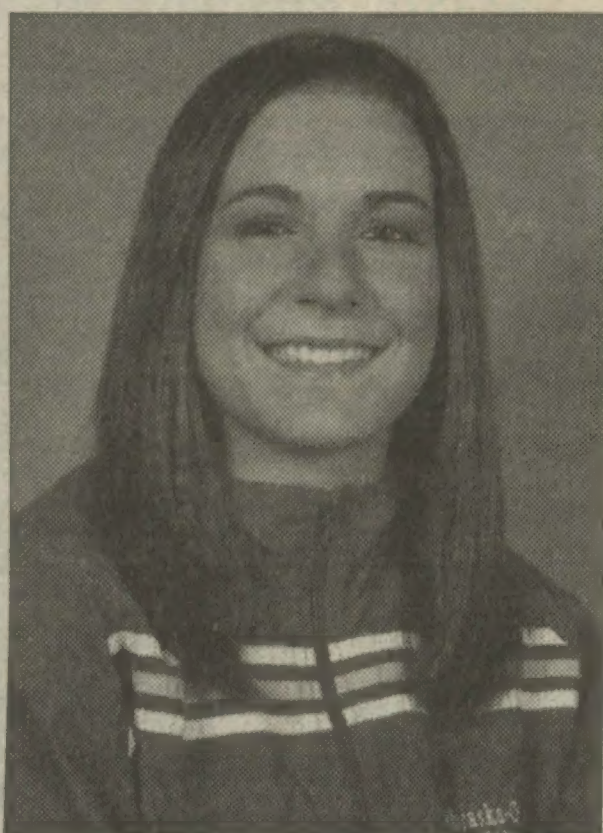
The Mavericks were looking to start another win-streak in game three against Northwest Missouri State. Cheris Kuster was perfect on the mound with the score tied at goose eggs until N W M S' Lindsay Stephenson hit an inside the park home run in the top of the seventh for the 1-0 win.

UNO left seven batters on base in the second game of the Mavs' first back-to-back losses of the season. The 21-game win-streak was two games shy of the school record set in 1993.

Sunday's games were rained out and not rescheduled. The Mavericks will take the field again on Wednesday in a doubleheader against Augustana to open North Central Conference play at 3 p.m.



Katie Novotny



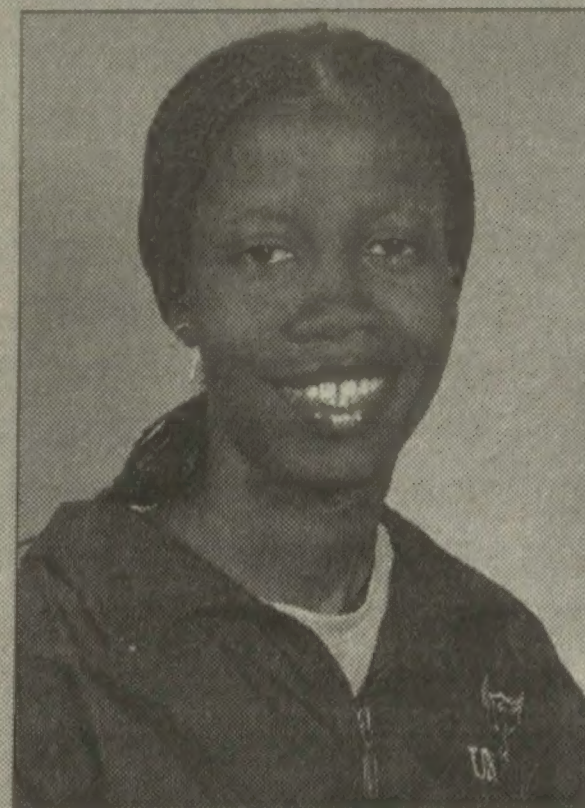
Sara Sortino

Runners win at Bearcat Invite

LIZ SELZER
SENIOR STAFF WRITER

The UNO track and field team blew past 17 schools in the Northwest Missouri State Bearcat Invitational last Saturday by claiming seven events and tallying up 169 points to take the title.

The Mavs claimed 15 top three finishes throughout the invite. Foluso Makinde leaped to first place finishes in the triple jump and long jump. She notched a jump of 11.48 meters in the triple jump, and her long jump measured 5.94 meters. Tahnee Tuenge placed first in the 1500-meter run with a time of 4:42.31.



Foluso Makinde



Tahnee Tuenge

The Mavericks claimed first, second and third in the 100-meter dash. Laverne Monger was the first across the finish line at a speedy 12.12 seconds, Molly Belling came in at 12.38, and Makinde claimed third at 12.53 seconds.

Monger and Belling also claimed first and second in the 200-meter dash. Monger came in at 24.53, a step ahead of Belling who came in at 24.91.

Kellie Ryan took third in the 10,000-meter run. Right behind her in fourth place was Kaylen Harris, and coming in seventh was Allison Gorman.

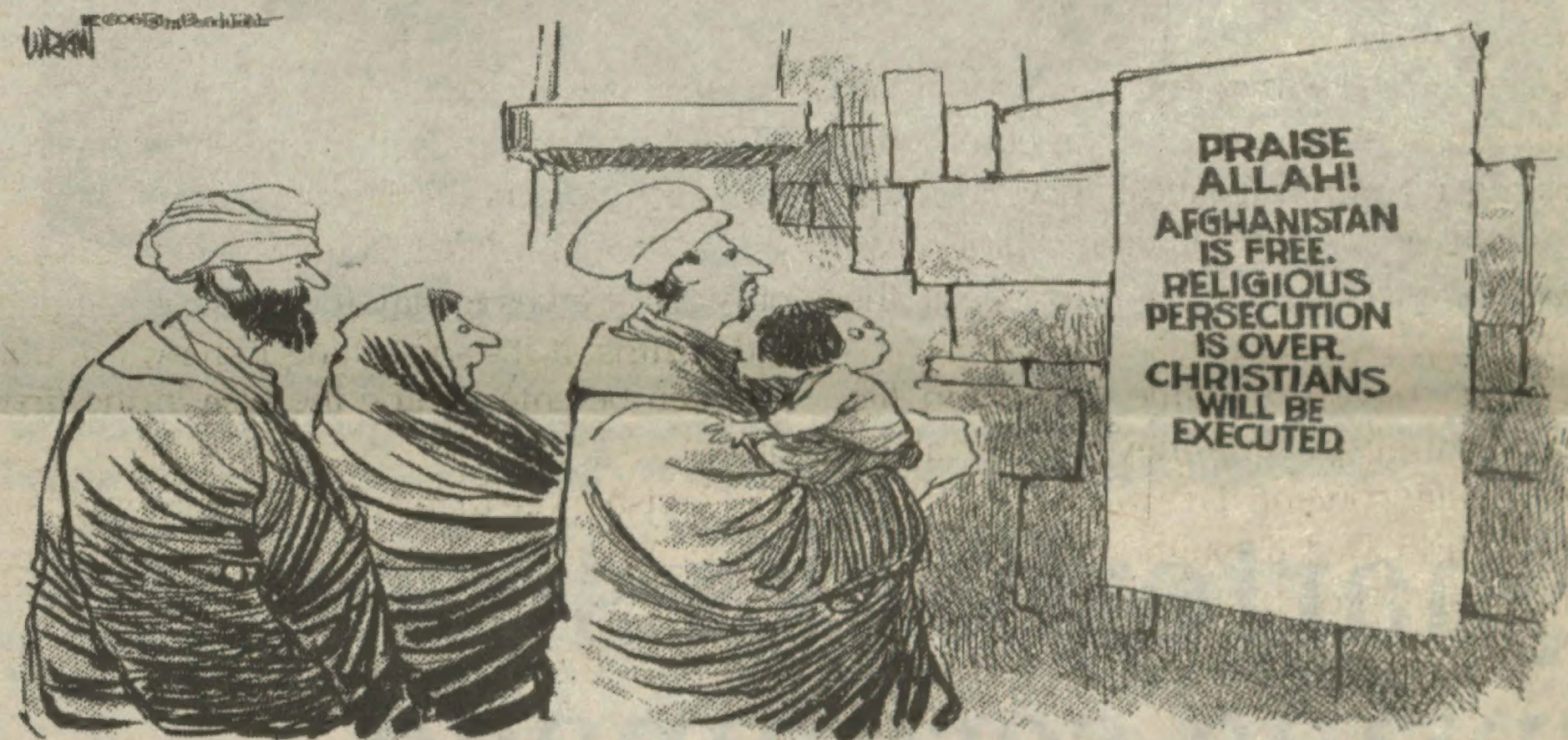
The relay teams claimed bragging rights in the 4x100-meter relay and 4x400-meter relay. The 4x100 relay team of Monger, Becky Hughes, Makinde and Belling emerged as winners with a time of 46.80. The 4x400 team of Hughes, Karin Clarkson, Lisa Lane and Magda Orzylowski sprinted to a time of 3:54.64.

UNO's next action will be April 8 in the Concordia Invite in Seward, Neb.

The Record Book

All records reported as of 4/2/06

Sport	Overall	Conference	Home	Away	Streak
Baseball	23-7	0-0	5-1	15-5	W-8
Softball	26-5	2-0	3-2	23-3	L-2
Tennis	6-4	2-0	4-0	1-2	W-1



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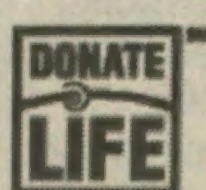
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All the little things

Manic Digression



Josh Bashara

there's always *something* that makes even the most enjoyable situations...well, less and less enjoyable. And it never falters. You could be sitting there, having a drink with your friends and suddenly, sometimes for no apparent reason, one of these problems pops into your head and ruins your evening.

So when does it end? When do we finally reach that zenith in life when we're completely free and clear of

every emotionally taxing problem that's in our way, keeping us from feeling 100 percent happy?

I don't think we ever do. The older I get, the more painstakingly obvious it becomes that I am not unique in being infinitely dissatisfied with my life. We all share death, taxes and discontent.

Superficially, it seems that the road we walk is a bleak one. If the one true thing that we desire the most—unfettered happiness—is unattainable, then why continue down that road? Perhaps the fight

We all have our long-term mistakes, those problems that stay with us for years.

is what keeps us moving forward in life. Even if we never admit to ourselves that our quest for glory is a futile one, we persevere.

It's not my place to counsel or hypothesize on what it takes to slay the beast of nagging little truths. If it's something I knew, I doubt I'd even be entertaining the idea in the first place.

I wish more than anything that someday, I'll be at peace with my life. There won't be any worries. There'll be nothing to claw its way into the background of my thoughts. Nothing to keep me awake in my bed at night, gnawing away at what little strength I have left.

But then, I wonder if I'd still be the same person I am today if I didn't lead a life scarred with imperfection. The one thing I do believe, though, is that life is one big compromise. It's a constant give-and-take relationship, one that keeps moving onward at the same pace, with or without you.

Maybe the trick isn't to slay your demons after all—perhaps it's just learning to live with them.

My experiences during tornadic Thursday

Last week was officially "Severe Weather Awareness Week," and one highlight was a mock Tornado Watch and two mock Tornado Warnings, both of which were held on Wednesday. These mock-ups were mentioned on UNO's main Web site.

Ironically enough, there was an actual tornado on Thursday.

One part mentioned in the announcement of the mock warnings was, though most likely people were not going to participate in the drills, it was advisable that everyone knew where to go should the real thing happen. Although I'm looking at this in hindsight, I doubt many of us thought we would be tested for the real thing the next day.

As I write this, I'm checking my cell phone for the one program that came in real handy during Tornadic Thursday: Accuweather.com Premium v3.0.

I ended up checking the program's radar and alerts every 15 minutes. This allowed me to catch the severe thunderstorm warning we had at about 2 p.m., and the details of the first tornado warning we had at about 3:30 p.m. Thursday.

Being aware of dangerous weather and knowing weather safety precautions is important during this season.

Here's a closer look at how to be prepared and stay safe:

First, know where to go. Make a list of places on this campus you usually go to, where you have classes and anywhere else you could be. Then, find the shelter zones for each building. It's simple when you think about it, but if you don't have to time

As Far As I'm Concerned



Matthew Lytle

or don't want to do that, common sense should kick in: get underground if you can, and try to get to the innermost parts of the building, putting as much of walls and rooms between you and the outdoors as you can. And if you can't, the best place to go is the lowest level of a stairway. It'll do in a pinch, because you may have from between three to 10 minutes to get to

shelter.

Second, take a page out of my playbook.

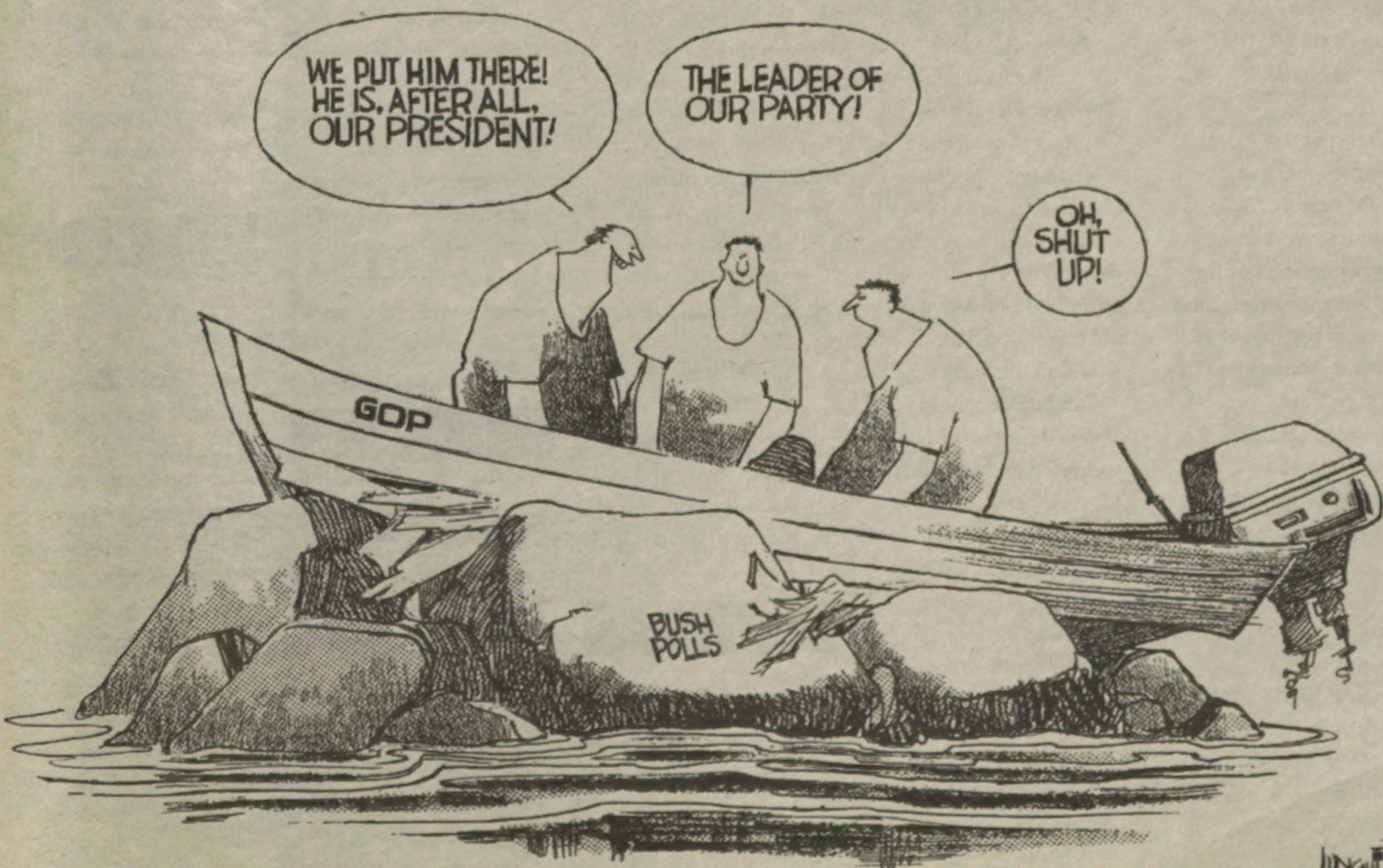
Most modern cell phones allow you to download stuff onto them. Download a weather program onto your phone. Most major carriers carry the same program I used. It normally costs about \$3.99 per month to use it, but there may be some other charges because it actually has to connect in order to get the radar images and current advisories. It's worth it, believe me.

Third, don't panic. When the sleet hits the fan, and another one of these warnings is issued, the last thing

you want to do is panic. Sure, you may not have a lot of time until the thing may hit, but by not panicking, you'll be able to keep a clear enough head to get to a shelter. Panicking turns a calm evacuation into a stampede, and that'll cause more injury than a column of fast wind could.

Even with all this preparedness, though, you have to stand back and look at this wonderful Nebraska weather we've had. Snow one week, and the next we're hit with a light tornado. I think all we can hope is that what happened during Tornadic Thursday isn't a precursor to what we'll face this storm season. But, that's as far as I'm concerned...

Being aware of dangerous weather and knowing weather safety precautions is important during this season.



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From **ON THE BEAT**: Page 8

sausage with papas fritas on the street corner.

But just as soon as the high-rolling began, I found myself on Friday night standing in the general admission line and paying \$90 for myself and a girl to get in. Then the chick that I just spent \$45 to get in ended up jumping in the VIP area with one of the performers, DJ Hell. Funny...

And as I wrap this up, I'm on the fringe of entering a 40,000+ outdoor festival (Ultra Music Festival), in which I'll see more international DJs in five hours than I've seen my whole life. By the way, I was supposed to play one of the side stages but never got my time slot. Hopefully I'll still be able to get in for free, provided I have my ID and the event flyer that includes my name. We'll see.

From **BLUE OCTOBER**: Page 8

"Balance Beam." The crowd's energy reached a climax during "Drilled a Wire Through My Cheek," a unique, funk-meets-metal tune from *Foiled*. Kids were jumping, fists were pumping, Furstenfeld was screaming...definitely the most rock-worthy moment of the night.

"Come in Closer," the last song before the encore, was perhaps the moment concert-goers will remember the most. Furstenfeld urged the crowd to sing—then scream—with him, then pointed out members of the crowd, incorporating them into the song. "His

heart," he sang, pointing to someone at random. "Her heart," he sang, pointing. On and on. "Our heart," he sang, then said, "You're never alone. We're never alone."

That kind of personal touch is the poignancy that defined Blue October in the early days; it's the reason the band has been able to build up a massive fan base primarily from touring, without major-label publicity. Saturday night's crowd once again made it clear that if Blue October keeps playing—keeps giving them the music they love—they'll keep selling out venues, year after year.

From **COLIN CONWAY**: Page 8

me deal with the problems I was going through," he said.

Writing songs was more of an urge for him than a decision. Some of his songs mean more to him than others.

"The song 'The Warmth' has to do with my friend Sheela, who passed away from cancer early last year," Conway said.

The song is about a friend who grew up with Sheela and the dream she had about Sheela. "She said when she woke up she just had this warm feeling all over her body as if she was being told that everything was going to be all right," Conway said.

Conway owns a few guitars, a microphone and a keyboard that he plugs into the computer to create bass tracks and other instruments. There are also drum loops in the program he uses that allow him to make his

own music.

Conway is most comfortable playing the drums. He likes the excitement drums put into music.

"I learned to play the drums because I always had some beat filling in my head and it mad me happy," Conway said.

Conway prefers to play the guitar, though.

"I started playing guitar in the seventh grade by messing around on a regular right handed guitar," he said "I would find ways to play bar chords by using different fingering positions."

Even though Conway does not perform in a band he would still like make an album.

"Music is just fun to write, and it is a great feeling when you finish a song that you've just put a lot of heart into," Conway said.

Community college embraces podcasts as teaching tool

By DOUANE D. JAMES

SOUTH FLORIDA SUN-SENTINEL

(KRT)

Broward Community College students soon may be able to get their education "on demand."

The school is experimenting with podcasting, a new digital technology that allows students to download lectures and other course material for listening on the go.

"Often a student will miss a class and ask, 'What did I miss?'" said speech professor Robert Buford, who is leading the effort at BCC. "Well, it's a 1 {hour} class. You can't put that in an e-mail. But you can with a podcast."

BCC has ordered new equipment to meet the demand for audio and video recording and digital storage. Buford recently began conducting workshops to train interested faculty and estimates more will begin podcasting in the fall.

Palm Beach Community College has also started to use podcasts, but Florida Atlantic University, the University of Miami and Miami-Dade College still are exploring the idea.

Joseph Azalino, a Boca Raton pre-med student at PBCC, said he downloads biology lectures and either transfers the files to a compact disc or to his iPod, a portable digital media player.

"You can listen to it anytime you want," said Azalino, 21.

He said he likes to replay biology lectures before quizzes or tests.

"It's another way to refresh my mind," he said, adding he also studies class notes. "It's the ultimate review."

Administrators brush off the idea that putting course material online would make students more likely to miss class. Rather, podcasts can be a study aid by allowing students to review what they heard in class, said Celeste Beck, a PBCC provost and chief of the Boca Raton campus.

For many students, it helps to hear material more than once, she said.

Through podcasting, a microphone and Internet connection are all that's needed to create digital audio.

The files are typically converted to the universal MP3 format, which anyone can download to a computer or transfer to an iPod

or any other portable MP3 player.

College students today expect to use new computer-based technology, Buford said, and "if we don't keep up with them, we become dinosaurs."

PBCC also will podcast college news and replay recordings of guest speakers and special events.

"This is really brand new, and we're floored at all the excitement," Beck said.

Jeannine Burgess, PBCC's director of instructional technology, said as many as one quarter of the faculty could begin podcasting in some form in the next year.

BCC's director of instructional technology, Russ Adkins, called podcasting "a very interesting experiment."

Whether it grows in popularity depends on how fast technology develops, Adkins said.

It could really take off if it becomes commonplace to get podcasts via cell phones, he said.

"Everybody might not have an MP3 player, but they all have cell phones," he said.

BCC supports blending new technology into courses, Adkins said, but will allow faculty to choose for themselves whether they want to participate in podcasting.

English professor Patrick Ellingham already posted one MP3 file at his course's Web site. In the recording, he reads poetry and discusses the importance of an author's voice.

"A lot of the faculty already use the Web. This is just a logical extension," he said.

Ellingham said he would like to use podcasts to enhance class lessons. Rather than posting full recordings of his classroom lectures, he plans to post extras such as an explanatory piece on how to use research resources at BCC.

That way, the online component complements the classroom lessons rather than takes the place of it, Ellingham said.

BCC student Jeffrey Marsh, 26, said more courses would benefit by mixing in the added elements of audio and video.

If students miss the point of a lesson in class, they can go online to review it for a second chance, said Marsh, a management information systems major.

"If nothing else, it grabs your attention as a new way to learn," he said.

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